



Indiana Bicentennial Commission
Board Meeting Minutes -- May 23, 2014

Present:

Steve Ferguson
Co-chair Lee Hamilton
PE MacAllister
Jim Madison
Mickey Maurer
Mary McConnell
Jim McCormick
Sen. Jim Merritt
First Lady Karen Pence
Ellen Rosenthal
Co-Chair Becky Skillman

Staff:

Perry Hammock
Deborah Wezensky

Executive Session:

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 an executive session was conducted to receive information about and interview prospective administrative and legal representatives and for the Board to receive training and orientation on board roles and responsibilities.

Presentations by Jessica Robertson, Commissioner, Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA) and Tim Grogg, General Counsel, IDOA, regarding board roles and ethics with insights to be provided by the Indiana Department of Administration.

No additional topics or issues were discussed and no final decisions or actions were taken.

Public Meeting:

- I. Welcome by Dan Bortner, Indiana State Parks & Reservoirs
- II. Committee Report
 - a. Book – Perry Hammock
Several meetings have been held regarding book content and process.
- III. Indiana Historical Society Update - John Herbst presented bicentennial related activities:
 - Indiana Bicentennial Train’s “Next Indiana” Traveling Exhibit had 13,165 visitors in 2013.
 - In the fall of 2014, the bicentennial train will be in Columbus, Jasper, Terre Haute and Bargersville.



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- A 300- page textbook for 8th – 12th grade American History students, titled *Hoosiers and the American Story*, was written by James H. Madison and Lee Sandweiss. IHS will offer the text to schools free of charge.
- Training based on this textbook will take place in 11 regional teacher workshops, beginning November, 2014 and continuing through 2016.
- National History Day in Indiana may engage 4,000+ grade 6-12 students.

IV. Old Business

a. Art Project Presentation - Lewis Ricci, Indiana Arts Commission (IAC)

- Ricci proposed that approved IAC project grants be additionally branded as Indiana Bicentennial projects for FY 2015, 2016, 2017 as deemed appropriate.

The Endorsement Committee members will take advantage of the First Lady's expertise in art and will discuss this branding in relation to the Indiana Bicentennial Commission Legacy Project program and report back to the commission.

- Also proposed, Indiana Arts Commission, in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources, would bring back arts to Indiana state parks. Approximately \$350,000 per year for three years would need to be identified outside of the IAC's current budget and appropriations.
- 2016 Governor's Arts Awards could be "supercharged." With projected venue, events and additional attendance, \$50,000 in additional private funds would need to be raised.
- The IAC wishes to offer special "Indiana Masterpiece" bicentennial grants to arts organizations statewide during the 2016 bicentennial year. Approximately \$200,000 would need to be identified outside of the IAC's current budget and appropriations.

b. Capital Projects Update – Jessica Robertson, IDOA

- Bicentennial Plaza: Requests for Information were sent out and included details such incorporating a time capsule and enduring torch. Proposals are due June 13, 2014. There will be a public process and a competition for ideas. The goal is to have a final concept by the end of July, 2014.



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- Education and Welcome Center: The site chosen is the Indiana State Library. Design partners are being hired to determine how to actively engage children and other guests at this learning venue.
- Indiana Archives Solution: Of the three major bicentennial capital projects, this is the most fluid at this time. The state's real estate portfolio is being reviewed for a possible secure site for Indiana archives.

V. New Business

a. Bicentennial Nature Trust update – Mark Becker, DNR

- Thirteen new BNT applications have been received for the May 1, 2014 deadline.
- Becker invited commission members and the public to attend the Speedway Trail Corridor (A BNT project) dedication, June 6, 2014. A “Walk a Mile with Mike” follows at noon.

b. Administrative Oversight Request

Co-chair Becky Skillman suggested the commission consider the advantages of having IDOA help with oversight duties. Senator Jim Merritt made the motion to have IDOA Commissioner, Jessica Robertson, and staff assume administrative oversight, legal and ethics duties for the Indiana Bicentennial Commission members and staff. Mickey Maurer seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the unanimous ‘aye’ vote of commission members.

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- Chris Jensen was recognized by First Lady and Bicentennial Ambassador Karen Pence on behalf of Governor Mike Pence for his service to the Indiana Bicentennial Commission. He was presented the Distinguished Hoosier Award for his service to the Indiana Bicentennial Commission as executive director.

VI. Open Discussion

Mickey Maurer requested a Book Committee meeting be scheduled.

VII. Meeting Adjourned

Next Indiana Bicentennial Board meeting: July 11, 2014- 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Location: Indiana Railroad depot, corner of South Senate AVE & Wisconsin ST, Indianapolis, IN